

# Addison County Regional Planning Commission

14 Seminary Street Middlebury, VT 05753 • www.acrpc.org • Phone: 802.388.3141

## Meeting Minutes Addison County Regional Planning Commission Wednesday, February 14, 2024

*ACRPC held its monthly meeting at its office and via google meet with the Vice Chair, Jamie Dayton of Panton, presiding.*

### **ROLL CALL:**

*Addison:*

*Bridport:*

*Bristol:*

*Orwell:* Joseph Andriano

*Panton:* Jamie Dayton

*Cornwall:* Stan Grzyb

*Ripton:*

*Ferrisburgh:* Tim Davis

*Salisbury:*

*Goshen:*

*Shoreham:* Nick Causton

*Leicester:*

*Starksboro:* Richard Warren  
Tom Perry

*Lincoln:* Steve Revell

*Vergennes:* Shannon Haggett

*Middlebury:* Hugh McLaughlin

*Waltham:*

*Monkton:* Deborah Sprague

*Weybridge:*

*New Haven:* Harvey Smith  
Jim Walsh

*Whiting:* Jennifer Erwin

### **CITIZEN INTEREST REPRESENTATIVES:**

*Otter Creek Audubon Society:*

Ron Payne

*Otter Creek Natural Resources:*

*Addison County Farm Bureau:*

*Addison County Economic Development Corp:*

*Addison County Chamber of Commerce:*

### **ACRPC EXECUTIVE BOARD**

*Chair:* Ross Conrad

*Vice-Chair:* Jamie Dayton

*Secretary:* Arabella Holzapfel

*Treasurer:* Cheryl Brinkman

*At Large:* Jeremy Grip

Tim Davis

Joseph Andriano

### **STAFF**

*Executive Director:* Adam Lougee

*Assistant Director:* Mike Winslow

*GIS Manager:* Hannah Andrew

*Land Use Planner:* Katie Raycroft-Meyer

*Emergency Planner:* Andrew L'Roe

*Office Manager/Bookkeeper:* April Clodgo

*Energy Planner:* Maddison Shropshire

*Natural Resource Planner:* Deron Rixon

*Eco-AmeriCorps member:* Carissa Finnerty

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Salisbury	Shoreham	Starksboro	Vergennes	Waltham	Weybridge	Whiting



**Addison County  
Regional Planning Commission**

**7:00 p.m. Business Agenda:** Tim Davis, the Secretary filled in for Jamie briefly and called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. He welcomed commission members and began the meeting.

- I. Approval of the January 10, 2024 meeting minutes:** Steve Revell moved approval of the minutes. Nick Causton seconded the motion. The minutes passed by a voice vote/show of hands. Tim Davis, Deborah Sprague, Jim Walsh and Harvey Smith abstained from the vote.
- II. Executive Board Minutes:** The Executive Board's January meeting minutes were included in the package for the members' information. No members asked any questions regarding the Executive Board meeting, so Tim continued the meeting and handed it back over to Jamie at this time.
- III. Treasurer's Report:** Adam presented the Treasurer's Report for the evening. Adam noted that cash flow remains strong, that cash on hand and receivables are also strong. Adam noted that ACRPC's financials continue to benefit from a number of prepaid items and that our projected revenue looks healthy. **Steve Revell moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Shannon Haggett seconded the motion. The Commission voted to accept the Treasurer's Report unanimously by voice vote/show of hands.**
- IV. Committee Reports:**

Act 250/Section 248: No meeting.

Energy Committee: The Energy Committee convened a meeting of all local energy committees on Saturday, January 20th. The Committee also met on January 15th. It discussed the regional energy plan, updating local enhanced energy plans and work it would do to create a dashboard for each town.

Local Government: No meeting.

Natural Resources. Stan Gryzb reported that the Natural Resources Committee met January 16th and started its review of the Natural Resources Section of the Regional Plan for an update over the course of this year.

TAC: Hugh McLaughlin noted that the TAC met on January 17th. Most of the meeting was spent reviewing the alternative Routes for the Vergennes PELS study. Hugh encouraged everyone to take a look at the visualizations of the route alternatives that the consultants had created. He noted they were well done and informative about the impacts of the routes.

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Housing: The Housing Committee did not meet, but has concluded its analysis of the Housing survey and will meet again next month. It will present further results soon.

Economic Development Committee: No meeting.

## V. **Joint Partner's Report/Delegate Staff Recognition:**

Adam gave a brief report. Adam wished Cheryl Brinkman a happy birthday and highlighted the appreciation he had received for Maddi's work with the Energy Committee.

## VI. **Old Business:**

Maple Broadband Update: Joe Andriano of Orwell noted he was very happy with his new Maple Broadband service and that he sincerely appreciated the work that Maple Broadband and Go Netspeed had done this year to bring a choice of high speed internet to the Town of Orwell. He noted that the transformation was amazing. Shannon Haggett, a board member of Maple Broadband, added that Maple Broadband had met last night, was currently nearing completion of its Phase 1 construction in Cornwall, Shoreham and a part of Orwell. Maple broadband has moved their crews and already started their Phase 2 build in Vergennes, Ferrisburgh, Waltham and parts of New Haven and Monkton. Phase III will start in 2024 and complete the builds in Orwell and Leicester. Maple Broadband voted to expend funds on the Leicester portion of the build last night.

Conflict of Interest Policy: Adam thanked the Commissioners that had completed their conflict of interest statements, requested all others to complete theirs and return it to him, via email or mail. Adam noted the conflict statements were included in this month's package and commissioners can also download it from ACRPC's website.

Audit update: Adam presented ACRPC's 2023 audit. He noted that the Executive Board had met with the auditor and thoroughly reviewed the audit at its January meeting and voted to send it to the Full Commission for approval. Adam walked through the highlights of the audit with the Commission. **Steve Revell moved to accept the 2023 Audit. Tim Davis second the motion, which all approved.**

Other: None.

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## VII. New Business:

Nominating Committee: Adam reminded the Commission that the Executive Board will choose a Nominating Committee at its February meeting and recommend that committee for the Commission to vote on in March (The Nominating Committee nominates a slate of members to serve as the Executive Board. That slate and any additional nominations from the floor are voted on at the Commission's Annual Meeting in May). Adam suggested that any members desiring to serve on the Nominating Committee should speak with a member of the Executive Board prior to their meeting on February 28th.

Other: None.

**VIII. Member's Concerns/Information**: Stan Gryzb expressed his concern about the water quality in Lake Champlain and the negative impact one large farm in particular was having on it by failing to implement the remediation a judge ordered it to undertake two years ago.

Richard Warren expressed support for a bill purporting to expand regional roles in government in the legislature this session.

**IX. Adjournment**: There being no further business, **Shannon Haggett moved to adjourn, which all supported. The Commission adjourned its meeting at 7:50 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Adam Lougee, Director

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